ROMANESQUE DOOR IN THE CHURCH OF ST. URSULA, COLOGNE.

The church of St. Ursula, at Cologne, is said to have been completed as early as the year 922, by Clinatus; but great alterations and additions have been made there since then. It is celebrated, as many of our readers doubtless remember, for containing the bones of the ten thousand virgins slaughtered, with St. Ursula, for virtue's sake!

It is said that an anatomist of the town once offered to demonstrate that the bones were those of *dogs*, and was compelled to fly to escape the wrath of the populace in consequence. With this, however, we have nothing to do.

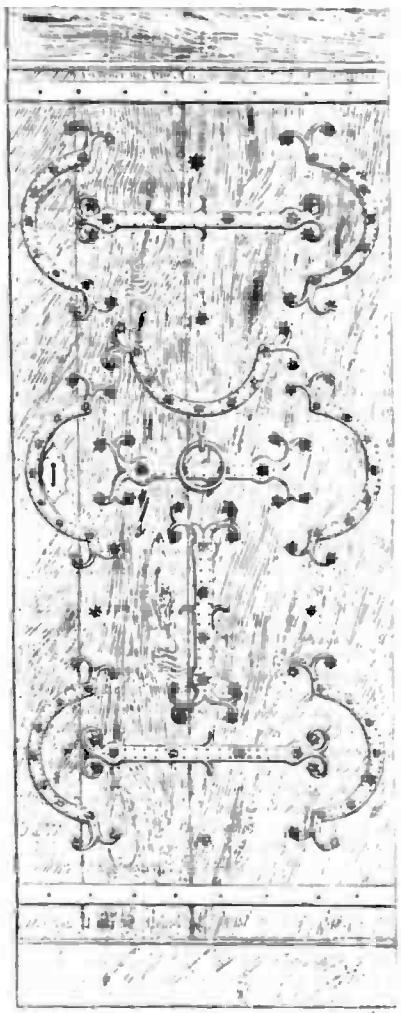
Amongst the interesting matters this early structure does really contain, is a romanesque door, of which the above engraving is a representation.

At present, a lining of wood surrounds it, thereby covering portions of the ironwork; but this has been left out of the drawing, to shew the design complete.

There is also in this church some very fine romanesque stained-glass windows at the east end.

"Santa Maria in Capitolis," another of the many fine romanesque churches of Cologne, has, in the north doorway, a pair of splendid doors, carved with scriptural subjects, and said to have been executed as far back as the 12th century; also a pair of fine wrought-iron renaissance gates to a chapel, a brass font, and some very good stall ends.

DOOR AT ST. URSULA'S CHURCH, COLOGNE.



ANCIENT AND MODERN SEPULTURE.

Mr. J. R. Hamilton, one of the architects of Cirencester Agricultural College, and who, as our readers may remember, was the successful candidate in the Birmingham Cemetery competition, has recently delivered a lecture on interment before the Gloucester Literary Association. The first portion of Mr. Hamilton's lecture gave a brief abstract of the various ancient modes of disposing of the dead, amongst both the rude and polished nations of the world. Of Rome he said:—

"The most costly tombs were henceforth placed along the roads at the several entrances of the city, in imitation of Greece and Egypt. Illustrious personages gave their names to the several localities in which they were entombed, and thus came the titles of Via Amelia, Via Lucilia, Via Julia, Via Appia, and the numerous roads which are yet seen branching like veins from the heart of the Eternal City, covered by the very flagstones which once echoed the tramp of her mighty legions, as she sent them forth to conquer the world; and though now solitary and fallen, glorious in association, and in noble keeping with the majestic solitude of her vast Campagna. The Appian way, in particular, was crowded with columns, obelisks, and cenotaphs; and on every side were to be seen the short but touching epitaphs 'Siste, Viator,' pause traveller; and 'Sit tibi terra levis,' may the earth lie lightly on thee. Up to this period none but the vestal virgins were permitted to be buried within the city; but after a time generals, who had received the honours of triumph, possessed the same right, and afterwards the priests. A distinction so flattering to vanity and self-love caused it to be eagerly sought after; and owing to the frequent revolutions which the city experienced, the subtlety of some, and the laxity of others, the abuse increased until distinction became lost in universality, and the evil became so general, that the Emperor Adrian was compelled to prohibit anew interment in cities, and Antoninus Pius afterwards included in his edict the smaller towns and suburbs of his enormous empire."

When the persecution had filled the catacombs with the bodies of the early Christians, he said,—"rich and influential patricians and Roman ladies, who had embraced the new faith, came boldly forward, and gave large tracts of lands for the exclusive purposes of burial, and hence the origin of *Cemeteries*, of which, I believe, no fewer than 40 are to be counted in the environs of Rome alone."

The main purpose of the lecture was to shew the advantage of extra-mural cemeteries, and the evils which result from burials in towns.

"Glasgow," said the lecturer, "boasts of its Necropolis. Dublin and Cork have also cemeteries, which are described as most beautiful and extensive. Nobody, I am sure, can visit many of those established in England of late years, such as Norwood, Abney Park, Kensall Green, Liverpool, &c., without coming away impressed with the conviction, that it is far more agreeable to our feelings to have the dear remains of those we love consigned to these retired, protected, and charming sanctuaries, than to the repulsive and uncertain keeping of a city graveyard, or to be left consuming in

'low-brow'd misty vaults,
Furred round with mouldy damps and ropy slime.'

Nor are the institutions I have mentioned the only ones worthy of notice in our own country. The danger which recent investigations have proved to arise from interments in towns has caused the establishment of many others in the united kingdom. There are two others at Glasgow, besides the Necropolis. In England, we have them at Bath, Birmingham, Bristol, Cambridge, Gravesend, Kidderminster, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Norwich, Nottingham, Portsmouth, Sheffield, Winchester, Wisbeach, York, &c. But, after all, these form but an insignificant portion of the mortality of Great Britain; and, considering the immense advantages that are seen to result from these institutions, wherever they have been established—the facility of so forming them as not to interfere with existing interests—the encouragement which Government has promised to give to, if it does not proceed even to *compelling*, their formation—and the emolument that must be reaped by those who embark money in these institutions, especially if Government insists upon extra-mural interment—it is really a matter of astonishment that so many large and populous towns throughout the country should have so long submitted, and be still submitting, to the intolerable nuisance of burying dead bodies among their inhabitants. Look, for instance, at a city of such importance as ours—with a powerful established commerce—already, and becoming yearly more so, the focus of a whole system of railways—which, if free trade is to bring all the good it promises, will be one of the first to reap the advantage;—where we see corn warehouses springing up, and occupied as speedily as they rise;—where it is contemplated to expend 16,000*l.* for the enlargement of our already flourishing port;—surely such a city should at least be in a position to keep pace with its neighbours in the race of public improvement. We can boast of an infirmary which, in point of extent and usefulness, and the talent of its officers, I have frequently

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